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2003 - 2004 COMMITTEES:
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June 19, 2003

Ms. Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street SW
Washington, DC 20554

Re: Proceeding DA-03-2344

Dear Ms. Dortch:

Just a few weeks ago, SBC applied to your agency for permission to provide long distance service in Indiana. I'm writing to you now in support of that application – and strongly encourage you to approve it so Indiana consumers and businesses will see the same benefits of open telecommunications competition that customers in many other states are already realizing.

As Chairman of the Commerce Committee of the Indiana House of Representatives, I'm very familiar with the major issues in the telecommunications industry today. Many of these issues have taken far too long to resolve in an industry moving as quickly as this one. However, now that the process of review at the Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission is over, and the IURC has endorsed the application, I'm pleased that the matter is finally before the FCC for final consideration.

I hope it comes soon. You've already approved full and open competition in dozens of other states. Without question, the local phone market in this state is just as open and competitive. As other states have seen, SBC Indiana's entry into the long distance market will spur competition even further here. My constituents – consumers, businesses and other organizations in my district – want to see those increased benefits.

Thank you for considering my petition on behalf of SBC Indiana. I look forward to the FCC's final vote in October.

I remain, cordially yours,

Dan Stevenson
State Representative
Chairman, House Commerce Committee